

Remarks/ Arguments

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1 to 34 will be pending in the present patent application. Claims 1, 12, 13, 17, 33, and 34 have been amended, without prejudice. Claim 12 has been amended to correct its dependency. Applicants' disclosure (as well as each of claims 1, 13, 17, 33, and 34) has been amended to correct an obvious error. In this regard, structure II has been amended such that the propylene oxide repeating units are more clearly defined. Support for these amendments is found throughout Applicants' specification such as, for example, at page 14, paragraph [0036], and at Tables 1 and 2 (pages 27 to 28), which clearly indicate that propylene oxide is the intended repeating unit.

Discussion of Election/Restriction Requirement Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121

The Action requires Applicants to select one of the following allegedly patentably distinct inventions for examination:

- Group I: Claims 1-11 drawn to etching a semiconductor to form grooves, classified in class 438, subclass 700.
- Group II: Claims 13-16 drawn to a method for cleaning using an automatic process, classified in class 134, subclass 18.
- Group III: Claims 17-32 drawn to compositions for cleaning semiconductors, classified in class 510, subclass 175.
- Group IV: Claim 33 drawn to a process for cleaning semiconductors, classified in class 134, subclass 1.3.
- Group V: Claim 34 drawn to a process for cleaning semiconductors, classified in class 134, subclass 1.3.

The Action alleges that the Group III is distinct from the other groups because the “process for using the product can be practiced with materially different product” (Action at 3). Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement.

For a restriction requirement to be proper, the Examiner must show that a serious burden exists if the claims of Groups I to V are examined together. M.P.E.P. § 803 (8th ed., August 2001). In this regard, the Action has provided **no** evidence or reasoning to show that the requisite serious burden exists. Significantly, there is evidence that a serious burden would **not** exist. For example, Groups IV and V are classified in the **same** class and subclass relative to each other. Moreover, Groups IV and V are classified in the **same** class as Group III. Thus, at the very least, a search for the each of the process claims of Groups III, IV, and V should be all-inclusive with respect to the claims within each of the respective groups. Accordingly, reconsideration and modification or withdrawal of the restriction requirement are requested respectfully.

To be fully responsive to the Action, however, Applicants hereby elect prosecution of the claims of **Group III**.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a complete and full response to the Action of record. Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an indication of allowability and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee required and any additional fees that may be needed to Deposit Account No. 01-0493 in the name of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph D. Rossi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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